

# The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aimest at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHRON, Established June, 1860.

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## THINK MORE OF DOGS THAN TAXES

House Spends Two Days Discussing Yellow Dog Tax and Does Nothing.

## SENATE PASSES THE COOPER BUDGET BILL

Senator Clifton Leads the Fight for Good Roads Legislation—People Demand Better Roads.

Columbia, Feb. 21.—The house of representatives spent the greater portion of two days discussing the question of imposing a tax on dogs. Much more time was spent in the consideration of this measure than was spent in the consideration of the appropriation bill. After the consumption of all of this time the measure was killed, or rather postponed until the next session.

The senate last night passed the bill providing for the adoption of a budget system for the State, similar to the Virginia system. Senator Laney of Chesterfield made a hard fight against the system but only four members of the senate stood by him. The sentiment of the senate was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposition. The system was advocated by Governor Cooper.

Indications now are that the general assembly will hardly adjourn before next Saturday. The appropriation bill will not be reported to senate before Tuesday night. It will hardly get through before Thursday or Friday. There will probably be a great many changes in the measure in the senate.

The senate is yet to act on the compulsory education bill passed by the house. It will probably take up the bill next week. Senator Duncan of Union has offered a substitute measure for the bill passed by the house.

"If I were the governor of South Carolina and had told the people that I favored good roads and this general assembly adjourned without taking any action looking to the construction of permanent highways in the State, I would call an extra session to pass such legislation," declared Senator John H. Clifton of Sumter in an eloquent argument on the floor of the senate last night in favor of action at this session looking to the construction of permanent highways.

The senator from Sumter declared that it would be a disgrace and a calamity if the general assembly adjourned with no action taken. The senator said that unfortunately all of his property lay some distance away from the proposed highway system but that that would not affect his vote because he believed that permanent highways would be the salvation of the State.

It now appears quite likely that legislation providing for a permanent highway system will be passed after all at this session. The house Tuesday night killed all such legislation by a narrow margin but sentiment in the senate is overwhelmingly in favor of legislation and it now appears that the house desires to undo that which it has done.

The only bill passed by the house was the Belser measure providing for the enlargement of the State highway commission to ten members. This bill is now before the senate and that body is expected to amend it and include in it some of the provisions that were in the legislation rejected by the house Tuesday night. It is now believed that the house will accept these provisions.

The people of the State are aroused over the action of the house in rejecting pending legislation and letters and telegrams have been pouring in on the senate urging that something be done. In the meantime some of the members of the house have also been hearing from home.

## Dairymen to Meet

## Will Organize State Association Next Month.

Columbia, Feb. 21.—Dairymen from all sections of South Carolina have been invited to come to Columbia March 11, when it is proposed to organize the State dairymen's association. This date was fixed yesterday by a committee from the South Carolina Livestock Association, consisting of W. W. Fitzpatrick, head of the dairy division of Clemson College; J. A. Shanklin of Camden and R. M. Cooper, Jr., of Wiscaky.

There are possibly 200 dairymen in South Carolina and an attendance of at least 100 is expected to attend the conference in Columbia.

A number of able leaders have been invited. Experts will come from this division of government work in the United States department of agriculture and representatives from the various breeders' associations will be sent to South Carolina for the convention. Representatives are expected from such organizations as the Holstein-Friesian Association, the American Jersey Association and the American Guernsey Association.

The meeting will be held at the Jefferson Hotel. One session will be held at one of the theatres, where stereopticon slides can be shown to advantage, and the film, "Love and the Jersey" may be shown.

## PIE FOR ALL WHEAT GROWERS

Government Will Buy This and Next Years Crop at Guaranteed Price.

## WILL SELL AT THE MARKET PRICE

Congress Takes Care of Wheat Growing Section While Cotton Farmers Must Work Out Their Own Salvation.

Washington, Feb. 22.—The wheat guaranty bill, authorizing the government to purchase wheat of this and next year's crop at the guaranteed price and sell at the market price passed the house today.

## The Wheat Question

## No Solution Has Been Found for Problem.

Washington, Feb. 21.—The house remained in session until a late hour tonight in an effort to reach a vote on the bill providing means for the government to carry out its guarantee of \$2.26 a bushel to the farmers for the 1919 wheat crop. The measure was taken up after the railroad appropriation bill was passed and was freely debated.

After adopting amendments changing from October 15, 1920, to June 1, 1920, the date on which the government guarantee would expire and giving the president power to prohibit importation of wheat should unfair tactics be used in trying to force down the price, the house adjourned without reaching a vote on the bill. The measure was made the unfinished business for tomorrow and a vote is expected soon after the house meets.

Representatives from Southern States made a determined effort to include as amendments provisions for lifting the embargo on cotton, reducing the number of grades, traded in on the New York cotton exchange and making cotton speculation unlawful, but they were ruled out by Representative Hamlin of Missouri, who was presiding.

Objection to the bill was made by both Republican and Democratic members because it does not specifically provide that the wheat be sold to the consumer at the price determined by the law of supply and demand. Representative Lever of South Carolina, in charge of the measure, told the house that public sentiment would force the government to sell the wheat in this country at the price prevailing in the world markets.

Berlin, Feb. 22.—The national ministry of economic demobilization estimates that there are a million unemployed men in Germany.

## CIVIL WAR IN MUNICH

Idle Workmen Under Spartan Leaders Fighting for Control of City.

## THE DIET HOUSE IS STORMED BY MOB

Two Ministers Killed and Spartans Seem to be Gaining the Upper Hand—People Flee.

London, Feb. 22.—Ten thousand workmen from the suburbs marched into Munich yesterday and shortly afterward violent firing was heard, according to a Copenhagen dispatch. The mob is reported to be plundering the shops.

The conditions now prevailing in Munich are virtually those of civil war. Hundreds of civilians started to flee, but the movement stopped when the Spartans occupied the railroad terminus. Reports state that a dictatorship of workmen will be proclaimed.

## Mob Invades Diet

## Minister Auer Fatally Wounded.

Berlin, Feb. 22.—The assassination of Kurt Eisner, the Bavarian premier, caused a tremendous riot in Munich. The diet which is in session was invaded by a mob. Herr Auer, the minister of the interior, who was shot, was still alive Friday evening, although desperately wounded.

## Early Return to France

## President Wilson Plans to Sail on March 5th.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Secretary Daniels announced today that President Wilson would embark on the George Washington about March 5th for his return to France.

## Bolshevists Take Kiev

## Local Reds Reinforced by Bands From Moscow.

Warsaw, Wednesday, Feb. 19.—It is reported that Kiev is again in the hands of the Bolsheviki, a large number of whom came from Moscow to assist those who had been in the city.

Warsaw, Thursday, Feb. 20.—The campaign of Poles in Lithuania and the provinces east of Brest Litovsk is proceeding actively. The Bolsheviki have been driven out of Maniewicz, leaving large quantities of war material.

## CONGRESS DENIES JUST REPARATION

Bill to Refund Cotton Taxes Collected at Close of War Rejected.

## NO REDRESS FOR THE VICTIMS OF OPPRESSION

Passage of Time Has Not Altered Feeling of North in Respect to Frightfulness Practiced in South.

Washington, Feb. 21.—There will be no return at the present session of congress of the illegal money tax levied upon the people of the South many years ago, although Congressman Frank Clark of Florida, from the committee on claims, urged in a report recently submitted that favorable action be taken. In this South Carolina's share is \$8,000,000. It became known today that Congressman French of Idaho had made an unfavorable report on the bill. Among the reasons he assigns why this tax should not be refunded was that the tax was constitutional and just. He also says that it would be extremely difficult at the present time, should it be refunded, to know where such payments would stop.

It is further urged by French that there is a question as to the South's representation in congress at the time it was levied. On this point he says: "It is further urged in part in the majority report that the cotton tax should be refunded because the tax was illegally levied from the standpoint of representation. It being pointed out that the 11 States of the South which are the chief cotton growing States had no representation in the congress of the United States. The point is answered in two ways: First, it is answered by pointing out that the States involved were never legally out of the Union; that they could have had representation in congress by complying with the requirements of the constitution and of congress. It may be further pointed out that States or districts at various times have been denied particular representation in congress through unseating of a member and yet were amenable to the revenue laws of the country."

"Again, if it may be established that the cotton tax was not a direct tax but was an excess tax, then the tax was passed on the consumer in substantial part and was paid by the consumer regardless of his place of residence just as the tax today upon cigars or a package of tooth paste is paid by the ultimate purchaser whether he be a citizen of the United States or of a foreign country. A difficulty that would be confronted at once, should the policy of refunding the cotton tax be adopted, in the problem of refunding the money to the person who raises the cotton."

## DIRTY POLITICS IN THE SENATE

Sherman, of Illinois, Introduces Bill to Muzzle President Wilson.

## REPUBLICANS FEAR PUBLIC DISCUSSION BY WILSON

Attempt to Prevent Details of League of Nations Being Laid Before American People.

Washington, Feb. 21.—A resolution designed to prevent President Wilson from discussing publicly the proposed league of nations until he has communicated the details of the plan to the senate foreign relations committee was introduced today by Senator Sherman, of Illinois, Republican. Consideration of the resolution went over under the rules.

The resolution declares that to discuss the league of nations plan before submitting the details to the senate would be "unwise, undiplomatic and calculated to promote discord."

## Money for Railroads

## Congress Provides Additional Revolving Fund of \$750,000,000

Washington, Feb. 21.—The bill appropriating seven hundred and fifty million dollars for the railroad administration revolving fund, in addition to the half billion carried in the act which provided for federal control, was passed today.

Warsaw, Wednesday, Feb. 19.—The Germans are reported not to be observing the provisions of the armistice as to fighting in Posen. It is said skirmishes occurred at various scattered points.

"The records of the treasury department show that on at least a large proportion of the cotton the tax was levied and collected when it was in the hands of middlemen and factors. What claim would the grower of cotton who had sold his cotton to the factor have upon money refunded to the factor? None whatever. The grower of cotton when he parted with his commodity to the factor received a definite price. The factor paid the price for the cotton and later paid the tax with the distinct understanding that he would take his chances of recouping himself in passing on the cotton to the manufacturers in Manchester or Lowell."

"If the cotton tax should be refunded, it then in large part would not go to the grower of cotton, but would go to the factor, and to him would be as a gift."

## PRISON SENTENCE FOR PRO-GERMAN

Berger and Four Other Socialist Agitators Given 20 Years in Federal Prison.

## JUDGE LANDIS IMPOSES MAXIMUM PENALTY

Claim to Be Martyrs But Persist in Attitude of Enmity to the American Government.

Chicago, Feb. 20.—A maximum sentence of 20 years in Leavenworth prison was imposed by federal District Judge Landis today on Congressman-elect Victor L. Berger, of Milwaukee, and four other Socialist leaders, who in final pleas likened themselves to history's greatest martyrs. The five men, convicted of conspiracy to obstruct the draft in violation of the espionage act, were granted \$25,000 bail by Federal Judge Alschuler in circuit court, and declared they would carry their legal fight to the United States supreme court.

Berger, publisher of the Milwaukee Leader, the others convicted are:

The Rev. I. St. John Tucker, lecturer and writer.

Adolph Germer, national secretary of the Socialist party.

J. Louis Engdahl, editor of the American Socialist.

William F. Kruze, head of the Young People's Socialist League.

Judge Landis overruled motions for a new trial, for a stay of execution and for bail, but granted the filing of a petition for a writ of error. Counsel for the convicted men then went before Judge F. Alschuler of the United States circuit court of appeals and asked for bail.

Judge Alschuler granted them bail, increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000, with the understanding that they refrain from resuming their former acts and utterances during pendency of their case.

William Cross-Lloyd appeared and offered to provide surety for the five but scheduled only a fourth of the \$500,000 required. The men were technically placed in the custody of the federal marshal and late in the night their bonds had not been perfected.

The new bond had been fixed at \$25,000 on each count, and each of the five was found guilty on two counts. The surety, too, was required to be double the sum fixed, or \$500,000 for all.

Berger and his four associates took full advantage of the customary inquiry of the judge whether they had anything to say before sentence was passed. The Milwaukee congressman-elect finished reading his 2,000 word typewritten statement with tears streaming down his face. He professed no surprise at the verdict, though declaring his conviction was in violation of the constitution and asserted he would retract nothing he had said or written.

The war was an imperialistic and commercial one Berger declared, and "over half the white race is in a chaotic state of revolution out of which must develop an orderly Socialist reign within five years."

The so-called league of nations is simply "a thin screen, behind which the capitalistic classes of the winning side are dividing the spoils," said Berger, who also declared that "Americanism is now synonymous with capitalism."

Irwin St. John Tucker, in his plea, compared himself and the other defendants to Jesus Christ before Pontius Pilate.

The wives of the convicted men were in court, but expressed no visible signs of emotion when sentence was passed. The men themselves, with the exception of Engdahl, who appeared shocked, received the sentence stoically.

## The Japanese Are Holding Tsing Tao

## Premier Hara Says There is No Reason Why China Should Demand Return.

Tokio, Feb. 21.—By the Associated Press.—Replying to an interpellation in the diet today Premier Hara said there was no reason why China should demand the return of Tsing Tao.

To another interpellator the premier said the race problem would never escape the utmost attention of the government.

## Fire at Monfalcone

## Great Maritime Works Near Trieste Destroyed.

Triest, Thursday, Feb. 20.—Nearly half the maritime works at Monfalcone, northwest of Trieste, have been destroyed by fire.

Warsaw, Thursday, Feb. 20.—Members of the inter-allied commission to Poland were fired upon by Ukrainian soldiers while traveling from Cracow to Lemberg on a Polish armored train. The delegation, which included Prof. Lord, one of the American members of the commission has returned to Cracow.

# COTTON ACREAGE REDUCTION DAY

## Proclamation by Governor Cooper Urging One-Third Reduction of Cotton Acreage and Calling on Farmers to Meet in Every County and Sign Pledges on February 28, 1919.

Columbia, Feb. 21.—Governor Cooper issued a proclamation last night in which he designated Friday, February 28, "Cotton Acreage Reduction Day." A cut of one-third of the acreage customarily planted is urged and also a reduction in the supply of fertilizer used.

The full proclamation reads: Whereas, an extraordinary situation exists in the cotton growing States, due to the low price cotton is bringing, which situation threatens dire financial distress and suffering to these States, because the existing market prices do not allow any margin of profit to the producers of cotton; and

Whereas, this situation is caused by the fact that the available supply of raw cotton is in excess of the demand, which condition will continue if the 1919 crop should be a large one; and

Whereas, the only plausible solution for the situation that presents itself is a reduction of the 1919 cotton crop;

Now, therefore, I, Robert A. Cooper, governor of South Carolina, do declare Friday, February 28, 1919, to be Cotton Acreage Reduction Day, and do call upon the cotton planters of South Carolina to pledge themselves upon that day to reduce the acreage ordinarily planted in cotton by one-third, and to curtail the use of commercial fertilizers.

Cotton growers today have on hand more than one-third of the 1918 crop, which they cannot sell at prevailing prices without sustaining a great loss. It is a matter of common knowledge that the ratio of supply to demand determines prices, and should the supply of raw cotton, already too large, be greatly augmented by a large crop in 1919, the result

hand, for the proper protection of would be tremendously disastrous to the individuals of the South, to the States, and to the South at large.

The prudent merchant who is overstocked with a line of wares does not procure more of those wares before he has sold that which he has on hand, and has paid for. Southern cotton growers must operate on this same principle. Unity of purpose and concert of action will save us from calamity, and give to us our just share of the prosperity which other sections of the nation are enjoying.

Therefore, as governor of South Carolina, and as one to whom the happiness of this State is of first import, I call upon the farmers to assemble in each county of the State on Cotton Acreage Reduction Day, to discuss and agree upon plans for the holding of present cotton on

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this cotton from depredations of weather, and for the curtailment of the 1919 crop so that it will not exceed two-thirds of the average yield. I call upon the farmers to sign the cotton reduction pledges which will be presented to them on that day, and to create a public sentiment which will not permit individuals to violate the reduction program. Unless this be done we may expect poverty while others enjoy wealth.

During the world war our people responded nobly to every call of patriotism. This movement to prevent the financial collapse of the South should appeal to the patriotism of every citizen, and no one should desire a personal gain to the injury of the whole people. I, therefore, most earnestly urge that the bankers, merchants, business and professional men, cooperate with the farmer in this movement, and that the farmers, cooperate with each other.

## REDUCTION PLEDGE

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

County of.....

I hereby promise on my honor and agree to reduce my cotton acreage for the year 1919 as compared with the year 1918, 33 1-3 per cent, or as per schedule shown hercon, and to reduce my commercial fertilizer on cotton for the year 1919 as compared with 1918, 50 per cent.

Witness .....

Signed .....

Address .....

No. Acres Planted in 1918.....

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